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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/078,941 05/14/98 FANGROW

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020995 QM12/0915
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EXAMINER

RODRIGUEZ, C

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3763

DATE MAILED:

09/15/99

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/078,941

Applicant(s)

Jangrow et al

Examiner

CJR

Group Art Unit

3763

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Response

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a response be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for response specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a response within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for response is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to respond within the set or extended period for response will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 7/22/99
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above claim(s) 1-7, 9, 25-38 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 8, 10-24, 39 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
- ☐ received.
- ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.
- ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1.7.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s) 4
- ☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Other _____

Office Action Summary

Art Unit: 3763

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restriction

1. Applicant's election of Group II, species A) figures 1-17, claims 8, 10-24 and 39 in Paper No. 7 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).
2. Claims 1-7, 9, 25-38 are withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a non-elected invention. Election was made **without** traverse in Paper No. 7.
3. Please, note that claims 27, 29, 33-38 have been withdrawn by the Examiner as being drawn to a non-elected species. Also, claim 8 has been found to be generic to claims 9, 25 and 26.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. Claims 8, 10-24 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 8 and 39, there is no antecedent basis for "said second medical implement" and "said first medical implement". If Applicant intends to claim both elements, they must be set forth in the body of the claim and not in the preamble. There is no positive recitation for both.

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Claim 11, "a ledge" is merely inferentially included in the claim and not positively recited.

Claim 16 is indefinite because "said first medical implement" is not the one to be connected at that portion of the valve.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

6. Claims 8, 10-15, 18-24 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Feith et al(5,730,418).

Feith et al. disclose a medical connector comprising a body 12, a cavity at 81,38 in communication with a second implement, and an opening 21 adapted to receive a first medical implement, a sealing element 14 positioned within the body and movable between a first position in which the seal prevents fluid flow through the body and a second position in which fluid flow is permitted through the body.

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Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 16 and 17 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

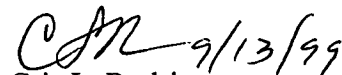
Conclusion

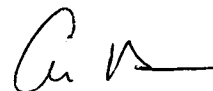
8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Paradis, Duquette, Fleetwood, Brinon, Winterton et al., Guala et al., Thomas et al., and Faust all disclose valves analogous to that as claimed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cris L. Rodriguez whose telephone number is (703) 308-2194. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Friday from 6:30am to 4:00pm. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Mondays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, Corrine McDermott can be reached on (703) 308-2111. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 305-3590.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0858.


Cris L. Rodriguez
September 13, 1999


CORRINE McDERMOTT
PRIMARY EXAMINER